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2014 APR 29 PM 12:28

CELA

Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, N.W.  
Washington DC 20463

2014 APR 29 PM 3:12

MUR #

6813

FEC General Counsel:

The following complaint is in regards to David Cox, who is running as a Democrat in Florida's 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional district. As a constituent of the 6<sup>th</sup> district, I have become concerned with some of the blatant FEC violations that Mr. Cox and one of his contributors have committed. As you can see from the attached documentation, Mr. Cox, along with one of his contributors, Gregg Smith, have committed several serious violations. According to his own quarterly filings dated 7/15/13 through 4/15/14, it appears as though Mr. Cox and Mr. Smith committed the following violations:

- On the 7/15/13 filing, Gregory Smith makes two contributions. One for \$500 on 5/22/13 and one for \$3,000 which was filed on 6/20/2013. However, in this report, Mr. Cox lists the \$3,000 as both a contribution and a loan. This is a clear violation of the law, as only a financial Institution or a candidate may lend a campaign money.
- Despite listing the contribution as a loan on 7/15/13, Mr. Cox omitted the loan information under listed debt in the following three quarterly updates. Yet he did not submit an amended report that removed the \$3,000 loan as debt.
- Due to the illegal nature of the loan by Mr. Smith to the Cox campaign, his \$3,000 donation on 6/20/13 must be counted as a contribution and be applied towards individual campaign limits. Therefore since both of the contributions were listed as primary contributions, Mr. Smith was already over the primary federal contribution limit by \$900 on the 07/15/13 filing.
- Despite already being over the federal contribution limit, Mr. Cox continued to accept donations from Mr. Smith over the next three quarters.
  - On the 10/15/13 report, Greg Smith is listed as contributing \$500 on both 07/12/2013/ and 09/28/13, for a total of \$1000.
  - On the 01/31/14 report, Gregg Smith contributed another \$500 on 12/06/2013.
  - Finally on the 04/15/14 report, Gregg Smith contributed another \$500 on 01/30/14.
- Based on those reports, Gregg Smith has contributed a total of \$5,500 towards the campaign of David Cox. All of the contributions received are assigned to the primary which would put Mr. Smith \$2,900 over the limit.
- Even if the donations were meant to be spread out over the primary and the general election, Mr. Smith would still be \$300 over the federal limit.
- In addition to the individual contributions that Mr. Smith made to the campaign, on the 01/31/14 filing, Mr. Smith's company, Smith, Powell and Associates made two contributions totaling \$2,000. One contribution on 12/05/2013 was made for \$500 while another for \$1,500 was made on 12/13/2013. Based on information I was able to obtain on this corporation, the

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corporation is comprised of two partners, Greg Smith and Travis Powell. Therefore, the \$2,000 contribution from their corporation would be split evenly between the two and thus increasing Mr. Smith's contributions by another \$1,000. That additional illegal contribution would now push Mr. Smith's contributions to the Cox campaign to \$6,500 for the cycle.

- Finally, there is the issue as to whether or not Mr. Cox purposely deceived the FEC in his quarterly reports. In the filings dated 7/15/13 through 4/15/14, Mr. Smith from

Norfolk Virginia is listed three separate ways. He is first listed as Gregory Smith, then as Greg Smith, and then finally as Gregg Smith. One explanation for this error is that most reporting software will notify you when a contributor has gone over the federal limit. One way to circumvent the software is to list the contributor with a different spelling. If this was done, it shows a willful intent to circumvent the contribution limits.

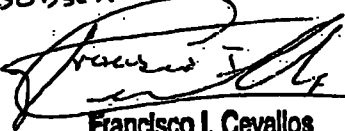
While I understand that errors and omissions frequently occur when running for office, I believe that these violations were not simply mistakes. Mr. Smith and his company have contributed \$7,500 to the Cox for Congress campaign. Outside of Mr. Cox's own money that he has lent to the campaign, the Cox campaign has only raised \$8,150 dollars. Therefore, Mr. Smith's contributions make up more than 80% of all of Mr. Cox's money raised. It is hard to believe that the campaign would accidentally forget how to spell the name of their largest contributor, or not realize that their only large contributor had gone over the limit. I ask that you please address these violations.

Sincerely,

  
Elvira F. Hasty

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

State of Florida County of ST Jo  
Subscribe and Sworn before me on.



4-23-2011

Francisco I. Cevallos

Notary Public

State of Florida

My Commission Expires 06/13/2017

Commission No. FF 27413